(b) the names of the districts identified for e-district project; and

(c) by when the above said projects are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SACHIN PILOT): (a) to (c) Department of Information Technology (DIT) received a letter *vide* number IT&C/7119/e-Govl/2008 dated 25.03.2009 from Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding inclusion of 2 districts namely Kadapa and Khammam districts under e-district Pilot project. DIT *vide* its letter No.3(104)/2008 EG II dated 23.04.2009 has informed the State Government that these 2 districts will get covered under the proposed national rollout of e-district Project.

Spectrum release

3108. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the defence Ministry has released spectrum in two lots of 10 MHZ;

(b) if so, whether the Information Technology Ministry has met all the conditions put at the time of release of this spectrum; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Yes, Sir. As per the first trigger of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MoC & IT) and Ministry of Defence (MoD) on 22nd May 2009, MoD has released 10 MHz of spectrum.

(b) and (c) The condition for release of this spectrum was met in May, 2009 when MoU was signed by MoC & IT with MoD.

Mobile number portability system

3109. SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunication (DoT) proposes to introduce Mobile Number Portability (MNP) System under which a subscriber can switch to another telecom operator without changing the mobile number;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this system will increase competition among telecom operators and act as a catalyst for them to improve quality of service; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) Sir, the Government has decided to introduce Mobile Number Portability (MNP) service in the country.

(b) MNP allows subscribers to retain their existing telephone number when they switch from

one access service provider to another irrespective of mobile technology or from one cellular mobile technology to another of the same or any other access service provider, in a licensed service area. Necessary license Agreements for MNP Services have been signed in April, 2009. As per time line set by the Government, in the first phase, MNP is likely to be implemented by 31st December 2009 in Metro Cities and Category 'A' Service Areas (Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu including Chennai, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka Service Areas) and in the rest of the country thereafter by March, 2010. however, there could be some delay in implementation due to time taken in upgradation and customization of existing networks by Access Service Providers.

(c) and (d) It is expected that the Introduction of MNP will help in increasing competition between the service providers and will act as a catalyst to improve the quality of service, because with the introduction of MNP, a customer will have the choice to move to other service provider without changing his/her number if he/she is not satisfied with the services or tariff of his/her existing service provider.

Construction of S.P.O. building

3110. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government of Gujarat has allotted land for construction of S.P.O. building at village Dungi in Valsad district of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the land was allotted with the details thereof; and

(d) the reasons for delay in construction of the said building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No village by the name 'Dungi' exists in Valsad District of Gujarat, hence question of allotment of land by State Government does not arise. However, there is a village by name DUNGRI in Valsad District where a plot of land measuring 1402 sq. mts. was purchased from Gram Panchayat for construction of Post Office on 5.2.1983. Dungri Post Office is a small Post Office with staff strength of only one Sub Postmaster, two Postal Assistants, one Postman and one Gramin Dak Sevak. Due to limited Plan funds for construction of new buildings, the Department gives priority to construction of bigger operative offices usually with a staff strength of 15 or above with very high rental liability. Since Dungri Post Office is a small Post Office, construction of its building can not be taken up at present.

Revenue from monuments in Rajasthan

3111. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of those protected monuments in Rajasthan where ticket is being levied;

(b) the revenue earned through the sale of tickets each year during the last five years and till date; and

(c) the total amount spent on renovation and maintenance of these monuments during the said period?